

REMARKS

The Examiner in the Office Action mailed May 12, 2005 required Applicants to make an election to a single species. In the response filed on June 23, 2005, Applicants elected Species A and Sub-Species AA. Applicants also traversed the requirement for election on the basis that all of the embodiments defined in the claims were directed to a damped spring system. Applicants stated that the various mechanisms for fluid flow control past the guide member of the spring system did not require separate art searching and did not justify the division of this application into nine parts. Applicants requested the Examiner reconsider the designation of species and to consolidate all the embodiments into the current application.

The Examiner mailed an Office Action on September 13, 2005 requiring a listing of all the claims readable on the elected species and sub-species. Applicants submit that all the claims that were not withdrawn are readable on the elected species and sub-species. As such, claims 1-32, 41, 42, 49-62 and 72-77 are readable on the elected species and sub-species.

Respectfully submitted,

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